

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A remote preference unit for influencing visited network selection by roaming mobile units, the preference unit comprising:
 - a detection unit for detection of roaming activity by mobile units
 - a database indicative of preferred networks for selection by roaming units, and
 - an output unit, associated with said detection probe and said database to output indications to influence network selection by said detected roaming mobile units,wherein said output indications are rejection signals to roaming request attempts to respective non-preferred roaming networks, and said roaming rejection signals are sent to location infrastructure of respective non-preferred roaming networks, thereby to cause a roaming request attempt to fail at said non-preferred network and force said mobile units to re-attempt roaming requests, thereby at said reattempting to select a preferred roaming network.
2. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 1, further comprising logic for assigning different preference information under different conditions.
3. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 2, wherein said conditions comprise time, such that different network selection preferences are sent out based on different times.
4. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 3, wherein a time used to set said preferences is local time at a roaming location.
5. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 2, wherein said conditions comprise one of profile settings and abilities of an individual roaming handset.
6. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 5, wherein said conditions are based on a segment of users to which a current handset belongs, such that said preference information is applied differently to different segments.

7. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 2, wherein said conditions comprise the proportions of roaming users currently connected to different available networks in a given roaming region.

8. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 1, wherein said output signal is a failure to reply to a roaming request in a given time, thereby inducing a time-out to said request.

9- 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A remote preference unit for influencing visited network selection by roaming mobile units, the preference unit comprising:
a detection unit for detection of roaming activity by mobile units
a database indicative of preferred networks for selection by roaming units, and
an output unit, associated with said detection probe and said database to output indications to influence network selection by said detected roaming mobile units
The remote preference unit of claim 1,

wherein said indications comprise an up-to-date version of at least a part of said database for downloading to said detected mobile units, said mobile units thereby being enabled to consult said up to date version for network selection,

further comprising a connection to a SIM card infrastructure through which to download said up to date version to said mobile units, wherein said connection is further operable to download an applet to said mobile unit to govern use of said up to date version, said applet containing dialing services customized for a current roaming region.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The remote preference unit of claim 12 ~~11~~, wherein said connection is operable to download said up to date version using binary SMS.

14- 15. (Canceled)

16.(Currently Amended) The remote preference unit of claim ~~15~~ 11, wherein said dialing services customized for a current roaming region are any one of a group comprising intelligent call completion, home short code, world wide number, and iVPN.

17. (Original) The remote preference unit of claim 11, wherein said output unit further comprises an association with said probe for rejecting a roaming request from a respective non-preferred roaming network, in association with said download of said up to date version.

18-39 (Canceled)